

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 5 and 7 have been amended as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A toner comprising at least a pigment and a binder resin,
wherein a filtrate obtained by filtering a dispersion comprising 0.2 g of said toner dispersed
in 100 ml of tetrahydrofuran through a filter with a pore size of 0.45 μm , when it is measured by a
spectrophotometer, has:

a maximum absorption between 380 nm and 440 nm wherein the absorbance at the maximum
absorption is 1 or higher;

a maximum absorption between 640 nm and 680 nm wherein the absorbance at the maximum
absorption is 0.2 or higher; or

a maximum absorption between 490 nm and 560 nm wherein the absorbance at the maximum
absorption is 0.15 or higher.

Claim 2 (original): The toner according to claim 1, wherein said filtrate preferably has a ratio
 $A/(A+B)$ of 0.1 or more for the peak detected at a wavelength of 410 nm or 540 nm by a UV
detector, wherein A denotes the area of a region where the molecular weight exceeds 2,000 and B
denotes the area of a region where the molecular weight is from 500 to 2,000, when measured by gel
permeation chromatography.

Claim 3 (original): The toner according to claim 1, wherein said filtrate has a basicity of 10 mmol/g or less.

Claim 4 (original): The toner according to claim 1, further comprising a charge control resin.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The toner according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein the charge control resin has a weight average molecular weight in the range from 2,000 to 50,000.

Claim 6 (original): The toner according to claim 1, further comprising a parting agent.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The toner according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 6, wherein said parting agent is a multifunctional ester compound.

Claim 8 (original): The toner according to claim 1, wherein said pigment has the following structure:



in the molecular structure thereof.

Claim 9 (original): The toner according to claim 1, wherein said pigment is a phthalocyanine pigment.

Claim 10 (original): The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner has a volume average particle diameter (D_v) in the range from 3 to 10 μm , the ratio (D_v/D_p) of the volume average particle diameter (D_v) to the number average particle diameter (D_p) in the range from 1 to 1.3, and the ratio (r_l/r_s) of the length (r_l) to the breadth (r_s) in the range from 1 to 1.2.

Claim 11 (original): The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner has a tetrahydrofuran-insoluble content in the range from 0 to 80% by weight.

Claim 12 (original): The toner according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous extract solution thereof has a pH in the range from 4 to 7.

Claim 13 (original): The toner according to claim 1, wherein the number of particles of said pigment having the length of at least 0.2 μm , counted in an area of 100 μm x 100 μm of the toner having a thickness of 20 μm , which is prepared by melting the toner at a temperature of 170°C, is 50 or less.

Claim 14 (original): A method for producing a toner comprising a step of polymerizing, in an aqueous dispersion medium, a polymerizable monomer composition comprising a polymerizable monomer and a pigment, characterized in that said polymerizable monomer composition comprises an epoxy compound or an acid halide having radical polymerizability.

Claim 15 (original): The method for producing the toner according to claim 14, wherein the content of said epoxy compound or said acid halide is in the range from 0.1 to 5 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of said polymerizable monomer.

Claim 16 (original): The method for producing the toner according to claim 14, wherein said polymerizable monomer composition further comprises a charge control resin.

Claim 17 (original): The method for producing the toner according to claim 14, wherein the charge control resin has a weight average molecular weight in the range from 2,000 to 50,000.